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that are in truth the foulest national disgrace, and other puerilities that illustrate the medieval standards under which the dealings of the nations are still conducted, need not long discourage us. Wherever the proposition to arbitrate is favorably entertained in any shape, there we see the faces of men turned the right way. Let us hope, and act as in our ability lies, and we shall soon find them moving on the path to lasting peace.

York, Pa.

In the Wake of the Fleet.

A writer (F. S. S.) in the September number of *The Friend* (Honolulu, T. H.), who saw the great parade of the battle fleet, makes the following reflections, among others, upon what has been left, and not left, in the wake of the fleet:

"A third thing which trailed along that evening in the middle of the wake was the moonlight, or rather, the moonshine, of our bland and naïve assurance to humanity that our hard-hitting navy is a sort of benevolent institution designed for the preservation of the peace of the world. Hearken, ye belligerent nations of the earth, to our evangel of peace! Prepare, if you will, for war: we are doing nothing but having our feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace. To this end we estimate that our Colossus requires forty-eight of these ten-million-dollar Dreadnought sandals of peace.

" 'Twenty-four on the East foot,
Twenty-four on the West,
And the Devil take the hindmost
If ever it comes to a test.'

"We once had faith in the power of justice, but that faith does not shout loud in the wake of our fleet, which has everywhere stirred up anew a martial spirit and a trust in the force of arms. Under the reign of faith in the power of justice we have been at peace with all foreign nations for the space of a century; the pen has proved itself mighty for every emergency; why now should we revert to type and flourish the sword?

"Constructive work does not thrive in the wake of the fleet. Our representatives this year have been voting away seventy per cent. of the entire revenues of the government for a war budget. With war prospects so remote as ours, we question whether our government does wisely to speculate in war futures to the extent of seventy per cent. of its income. Might it not well devote a little larger percentage in constructive work? Thirty per cent. looks a trifle out of proportion for the entire executive, legislative and judicial departments of our government, its waterways, forestry, postal service, light-houses, consular and diplomatic service, and the various other lines of constructive work.

"Commerce does not find encouragement in the wake of the fleet. True, it comes out and makes its bow at the passing of the battleships, like the cuckoo in the clock at the passing of the hour; but then it retires to consider how soon its day will have been told off; for the constant increase in war budgets, laying ever heavier burdens upon the people, and plunging the nations that are our best customers into bankruptcy, bodes ill to the ambitions of commerce.

"A modern battleship becomes practically useless in fifteen years; new inventions put it out of date; yet its

cost exceeds the valuation of all the land and the one hundred buildings Harvard University has accumulated in two hundred and fifty years, plus all the land and buildings of Hampton and Tuskegee Institutes.

"There is one destructive virtue, also, which we wish were found in the wake of the navy; that is, the destruction of the *internal enemies* of our national life. Every year more lives are lost in our country through ignorance, preventable disease and crime, than in all the wars we have ever had with foreign powers. If she would just leave behind some of those fine young men, salaried to do battle against some of these internal enemies, we wonder if our navy could make any nobler sacrifice for her country."

The Workers of Britain to the Workers of Germany.

We are very glad to be able to republish, from the *Arbitration*, the organ of the International Arbitration League, founded by William Randal Cremer in 1870, the Address, presented by the workers of Britain to the workers of Germany, on September 20, at the time of the Inter-parliamentary Conference at Berlin. The Address, the drafting of which was one of the last of Sir William's services to the cause of peace, was signed by more than three thousand representatives of labor in Great Britain, including forty-eight members of the House of Commons. It was presented at Berlin by a deputation of twenty British workers.

"*Brothers:* In the past wars were generally caused by the dynastic quarrels of monarchs, the intrigues and wrangling of statesmen, religious bickerings and persecutions, or racial prejudices. Some of these, indeed, still remain as potent causes of mischief, but to-day the most powerful agency for evil is that portion of the press which is owned and controlled by unprincipled capitalists, and we are pained at the frequent attempts of these journals to create strife between your country and ours; but we assure you that these sinister attempts are neither prompted nor endorsed by the workers of Britain. For many years the same evil agencies were successfully employed in creating dissension between the workers of France and ourselves, the people of both countries being taught to hate each other and waste their resources by invading each other in militarism and armaments, the almost incalculable cost of which had to be defrayed by the British and French peoples. Not only were these wasted millions extracted from the toilers, but for generations the people of both countries fought and killed each other like savages, the only persons who profited by the carnage being the usurers and personally interested classes. The masses paid and fought; the interested classes reaped the fruits of their insensate folly. At last, however, after long years of persistent efforts, peace has been secured by a treaty of arbitration being concluded between the two countries. That treaty is a TRIUMPH FOR THE WORKERS OF BRITAIN AND FRANCE, for it was they who, thirty-seven years ago, amidst obloquy and scorn, pioneered it, and ultimately secured

its adoption. The treaty was speedily followed by a Commission appointed by the British and French governments, which easily discovered a way of settling all the outstanding differences between this country and France. The report of that Commission was ratified by the French and British Parliaments, with the result that the dread of invasion entertained in both countries no longer exists, to the disadvantage of stock exchange gamblers and panic-mongers, but to the ultimate advantage of the industrial classes generally. What is there to prevent the workers of Germany and Britain from doing what France and Britain have done?

WE HAVE NO CAUSE OF QUARREL WITH EACH OTHER. It is not only our desire, but our interest, that harmony between us should be unbroken, and yet it frequently happens that a number of journals in both countries deliberately invent and circulate malicious statements concerning the ill-will of Germans toward us and our ill-will towards you. That feeling may be entertained by bellicose journalists and other interested persons, but it is not shared by the workers, who extend the hand of friendship to you, the workers of Germany.

"Those who come to you with this fraternal message, and all whose names are appended, while rejoicing at the progress which has been made in systematizing arbitration and so providing an alternative method of settling disputes, are sincerely anxious that the same amicable relations shall be established between Germany and Britain that now exist between this country and France. In this spirit and with this hope we approach you. Differing, as many of us do, in our political, social and religious opinions, we are united in believing that peace is not only the breath of life, but the first and indispensable condition of progress. Strong in that belief, we desire to forge another link in

THE CHAIN OF HUMAN BROTHERHOOD, and to make the chain, binding together the peoples of Germany and Britain, so strong that the united powers of evil shall be unable to break it asunder.

"But all our hopes and aspirations, however important they may be, are subsidiary to the mighty problem of how to reduce the crushing burden imposed by militarism and costly armaments.

"We believe that, with some exceptions, monarchs and statesmen really are desirous of avoiding war, although some of them have peculiar views as to the best means of preserving peace; but, whatever may be the views of rulers, the producers of wealth have every reason for settling disputes without fighting each other. The quarrels of nations are not of their making, but they have to pay the cost of war and shed their blood.

"We have no mandate to speak for the workers of France, but from our knowledge of them we venture to express the belief that the *entente* they have concluded with us they would be rejoiced to extend to you; and with the workers of Britain, France and Germany united in demanding that arbitration shall be substituted for war, the pernicious influence of the exploiters and panic-mongers and their journals would be weakened, the peace of Europe would be less likely to be broken, and millions of money wasted on armaments would cease to be extracted from the pockets of the toilers.

"We shall be glad to exchange communications with you or receive a return visit from you."

Mahmoud and Kasajas.

BY ALICE STONE BLACKWELL.

Mahmoud the Great on a journey went;
His thoughts were on war and conquest bent.
Kasajas followed him, musing too,
But what his thoughts were, no man knew.
The Sultan spoke: "My wise Vizier,
Marvelous things of thee I hear.
Say, is it true, as men declare,
That thou knowest the speech of the birds of the air?"
Kasajas answered, "Sire, 't is truth.
A dervish taught me the art in youth.
Whatever by birds is said or sung
I comprehend like my mother tongue."
Two screech-owls sat on a plane-tree bare;
With notes discordant they filled the air.
The Sultan pointed: "Tell me, pray,
What is it those birds of evil say?"
Kasajas listened: "Oh, sire, I fear
To tell thee plainly the thing I hear.
Those hateful screech-owls talk of thee!"
"Verily! What can they say of me?
Tell me the truth, and have no fear;
The truth is best for a monarch's ear."
"Thy servant, sire, obeys thy words.
This is the talk of those evil birds:
'I am content,' said the elder one,
'Unto thy daughter to wed my son,
If twenty villages, ruined all,
To her for her dowry portion fall.'
'Three times twenty such instead
Shall be her portion,' the other said.
'Long may Allah, the kind and good,
Preserve the life of the great Mahmoud!
Wherever he rides, there will be no lack
Of ruined villages in his track!'"
The Sultan's dreams were dark that night.
When came the dawn of the morning light,
He rose from a couch where he found no ease,
And sent an embassy of peace.

Dorchester, Mass.

Fear and Armaments.

The *Westminster Gazette*, in an editorial entitled "Pacifists, but —," gives expression to some most sensible views in regard to the unreliableness of a peace which rests upon fear of armaments. The editorial is as follows:

"The customary comment on reading such a speech as Prince Bülow made yesterday to the Interparliamentary Union at Berlin is, 'These are words, not deeds. It all sounds very fine, but we must judge statesmen by what they do and not by what they say.' The German organ of the Social Democrats said last night, and several English newspapers repeat this morning, that there will be 'neither a man nor a cruiser the less' because the German Chancellor paid the customary homage to the virtue of peace. Everybody in Europe believes in his own virtue; everybody professes a judicious skepticism about his neighbor's virtue. What we say about Germany is echoed to the last syllable about us in